

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/551,256

Examiner

Zandra V. Smith

Applicant(s)

GEORGIS ET AL

Art Unit

2877

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--  
All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 25 August 2003
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 3-31.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 4/17/03 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the Examiner.
- (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number [see 37 CFR 1.84(c)] should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1 ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2 ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3 ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 4 ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- 7 ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- 8 ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- 9 ☐ Other

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 1 and 3-31 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious, a system for monitoring input light having a plurality of spectral bands that includes generating, during a first time interval a signal representing the combined optical power of the spectral bands other than the first spectral band, in combination with the rest of the limitations of claim 1.

Regarding claims 3, 6, and 30, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious, a system for monitoring input light having a plurality of spectral bands that includes generating, during each of a plurality of time intervals corresponding to a plurality of spectral bands separating a different corresponding spectral band of the plurality of spectral bands, directing the separated spectral band to a photodetector while preventing the spectral bands other than the separated spectral band from reaching the photodetector and generating a signal representing a quality characteristic of light in the separated spectral band, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claims.

As to claims 8, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a system for monitoring input light having a plurality of spectral bands that includes an optical train that intercepts input light wherein the input light is subject to a modulation that implements SONET STS-1 frames and an electrical circuit, coupled to a photodetector, that provided a signal representing specific bytes in the SONET frames of the

modulation pattern of light impinging on the photodetector, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claims.

As to claims 10 and 18, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a system for monitoring input light having a plurality of spectral bands that includes a routing mechanism that includes a plurality of dynamically controllable routing elements controlled to direct the spectral bands during specified time periods and a control circuit coupled to the routing mechanism to cause only a first selected spectral band to be directed to the photodetector during a first time interval and to cause only a second selected spectral band to be directed to the photodetector during a second time interval, the control circuit sequentially selecting each routing element in a desired subset of the plurality of routing elements, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claims.

Regarding claims 17 and 28, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious, a system for monitoring input light having a plurality of spectral bands that includes a coupler to direct a fraction of light traveling along a fiber away from the fiber and a routing mechanism and a control circuit coupled to the routing mechanism to the routing mechanism to cause only a first selected spectral band to be directed to the photodetector during a first time interval and to cause only a second selected spectral band to be directed to the photodetector during a second time interval, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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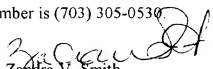
fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Fax/Telephone Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zandra V. Smith whose telephone number is (703) 305-7776. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank G. Font can be reached on (703)308-4881. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-0530.

  
Zandra V. Smith  
Primary Examiner  
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